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Application No: 10/773,225
Attorney's Docket No: ALC 3116**SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS**

Please replace the paragraph [0034] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0034] A further variation involves an ideal offset filter ~~which is described in greater detail in co-pending U.S. application filed Nov. 24, 2003. The contents of the co-pending application are incorporated herein by reference.~~ Figure 4 shows a sliding window of fixed size to select the ideal groupings of bits to best group addresses in order to reduce the number of prefix lengths within a group. In this embodiment the bits from the sliding window are used as the extra filter. There are two further aspects of this scenario. The first is simply to use statistics of the ideal location of the sliding window to build the filter. In this case the position of the sliding window is fixed as shown in Figure 5. The second scenario is to dynamically determine the ideal position of the window based on the current routing table.